

A cosmic background featuring a view of Earth from space, showing the horizon and clouds. The Moon is visible in the upper center, and the Milky Way galaxy is visible in the upper left. The sky is a deep blue and purple, with stars and nebulae scattered throughout.

THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM

GENESIS 15:7-21

- God had told Abram that He would give the land of Canaan to him and his descendants back in **ch. 12:7; 13:15, 17**; now He reaffirms, confirms, and affirms that promise in **v. 7**. That land is now known as Israel.
- Israel will be the stage for the final act of the salvation story when Messiah returns to reign on earth.
- The battle to keep Israel in the hands of God's chosen people continues to this day!

ASKING ASSURANCE FROM GOD v. 8-12

Don't be afraid to ask God for some assurance when you are not sure . . . He understands our weakness!

- What is described in v. 15:9-17 was known in that day as *“cutting a covenant.”*
- The ceremony here in our passage not only confirmed the promise, but was highly instructive.
- The curse of sin can be removed only by sacrifice, in the shedding of blood. **Lev. 17:11; Heb. 9:22**

LIFE FROM DEATH

The slain animals were placed in two rows, one bird along with a half-portion of each of the other animals.

- After Abram made the preparations, however, nothing happened during the rest of the day, and finally the sun went down; the wait was on. **2 Peter 3:9**
- This was serious stuff not to be trifled with. **Jeremiah 34:18-20**
- God alone *passed between the parts of the sacrifices; unconditionally, pronouncing life from death!* **v. 17**

THREE SPECIFIC ENTITIES

GEN. 15:13-21

- 1. The Nation/Future Israel—15:13-14, 16-17**
- 2. Abram Himself—15:15**
- 3. The Land of Promise—15:18-21**

I. THE NATION

Jacob and his family went to Egypt to be protected by Joseph, and there they grew into a mighty people. **Genesis 46; Exodus 1**

II. ABRAM'S PERSONAL JOURNEY OF FAITH

GENESIS 15:15

In spite of Abraham's occasional failures, he accomplished the will of God and brought blessing to the whole world.

- Abram's "good old age" was 175 years (**Gen. 25:7**), which means he walked with God in obedience for a century; what an encouragement.
- Just as promises like **Phil. 1:6** and **Eph. 2:10**.

III. THE LAND OF PROMISE v. 18-21

- At the beginning of Abraham's pilgrimage, God said to him, *"I will show you"* the land. **12:1**
- Later, He said, *"I will give it to you."* **13:15-17**
- **But now, His word is to Israel:** *"To your descendants I have given this land."* **15:18**
- God's unconditional covenant made the ownership of the land a settled matter. **Joel 3:1-2** lists this conflict over the land as the reason for the Lord's return and the Tribulation.

GOD'S UNFAILING PROMISES

When Abraham was concerned about himself . . .

- God assured him by saying, ***“I AM!”***
- When he was concerned about his heir, he heard God say, ***“I will!”***
- His concern about the land was met by God's promise, ***“I have given!”***

Do you believe in the great I AM—I Will—I Have?